



## The Supreme Court wrestles with social media cases that have echoes of Donald Trump

By MARK SHERMAN  
Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Supreme Court wrestled Tuesday with whether public officials can block critics from commenting on their social media accounts, an issue that first arose in a case involving former President Donald Trump.

The justices heard arguments in two cases involving lawsuits filed by people who were blocked after leaving critical comments on social media accounts belonging to school board members in southern California and a city manager in Port Huron, Michigan, north-east of Detroit.



The Supreme Court is seen in Washington, Sept. 25, 2023.

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# The Supreme Court wrestles with social media cases that have echoes of Donald Trump

Continued from Front

The cases force the court to deal with the competing free speech rights of public officials and their constituents, and all in a rapidly evolving virtual world.

"More and more of our democracy operates on social media," Justice Elena Kagan said during three hours of arguments.

The cases are part of a term-long focus on the relationship between government and the private digital platforms. Justice Clarence Thomas hinted at coming cases when he described as "the looming elephant in the room" the power of Facebook and other platforms to take down accounts.

Early next year, the court will evaluate Republican-passed laws in Florida and Texas that prohibit large social media companies from taking down posts because of the views they express. The tech companies said the laws violate their First Amendment rights. The



Former President Donald Trump waits for the continuation of his civil business fraud trial at New York Supreme Court, Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2023, in New York.

laws reflect a view among Republicans that the platforms disproportionately censor conservative viewpoints.

Also on the agenda is a challenge from Missouri and Louisiana to the Biden administration's efforts to

combat controversial social media posts on topics including COVID-19 and election security.

The states argue that the administration has been unconstitutionally coercing the platforms into cracking down on conservative positions.

Tuesday's cases delving into the common use of social media by public officials are less overtly partisan. But they are similar to a case involving Trump and his decision to block critics from his personal account on Twitter, now known as X. The justices dismissed the case after Trump left office. The @realdonaldtrump account had more than 88 million followers, but Trump argued that it was his personal property.

"But he seems to be doing, you know, a lot of government on his Twitter account," Kagan said. "I mean, sometimes he was announcing policies. Even when he wasn't, I mean, I don't think a citizen would be able to really understand the Trump presidency, if you will, without any access to all the things that the president said on that account."

Appeals courts in San Francisco and Cincinnati reached conflicting decisions about when personal

accounts become official, and it seemed that the justices did not wholly embrace either ruling.

The justices did seem to agree that they should provide a clear legal standard, though where they would come down was unclear.

Justice Brett Kavanaugh, husband of a town manager in the Washington suburbs, said it is "definitely true" that local officials need guidance.

The first case involved two elected members of a California school board, the Poway Unified School District Board of Trustees. The members, Michelle O'Connor-Ratcliff and T.J. Zane, used their personal Facebook and Twitter accounts to communicate with the public. Two parents, Christopher and Kimberly Garnier, left critical comments and replies to posts on the board members' accounts and were blocked. The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said the board members had violated the parents' free speech rights by doing so. Zane no longer serves on the school board.

The other case involved James Freed, who was appointed Port Huron's city manager in 2014. Freed used the Facebook page he first created while in

college to communicate with the public, as well as recount the details of daily life.

In 2020, a resident, Kevin Lindke, used the page to comment several times from three Facebook profiles, including criticism of the city's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Freed blocked all three accounts and deleted Lindke's comments. Lindke sued, but the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals sided with Freed, noting that his Facebook page talked about his roles as "father, husband, and city manager."

The Biden administration is siding with the officials and urging the court to respect the distinction between officials' private and public lives. In these cases, the government doesn't control or operate the accounts, the Justice Department said.

Several justices seemed dissatisfied with the administration's approach. "To make so much turn on who owns the Facebook page seems quite artificial," Justice Samuel Alito said.

On the other side of the case, the American Civil Liberties Union wrote that the officials in both cases took public, or state action, "when they excluded dissenting constituents from social media profiles that they held out as extension of their public office."

The justices lobbed one hypothetical question after another at the six lawyers who argued before them Tuesday. Justice Amy Coney Barrett stopped herself midway through one offering, after she said one of her law clerks could start posting "the official business of the Barrett chambers" on social media.

"That wouldn't be OK," she said, seeming to speak directly to the law clerks, who often attend Supreme Court arguments.

Decisions in O'Connor-Ratcliff v. Garnier, 22-324, and Lindke v. Freed, 22-611, are expected by early summer. □

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# Auto strike settlements will raise costs for Detroit's Big 3

By **TOM KRISHER**

AP Auto Writer

**DETROIT (AP)** — From generous pay and benefits to stronger job security, the United Auto Workers union won significant concessions in tentative settlements that have ended their strikes against Detroit's three automakers.

Now, General Motors, Ford and Stellantis are facing sharply higher labor costs, estimated by some analysts at exceeding \$1 billion per year, per company. The automakers will try to absorb those cost increases through expense reductions and efficiencies while still aiming to post strong enough profits to please Wall Street. In addition, analysts say, the companies will likely try to offset their cost increases by raising vehicle prices for consumers. How much they'll be able to do so, though, remains unclear. American auto buyers are already facing enormous price runups since the pandemic: The average new-car price has soared roughly 25% since the pandemic struck three years ago. Customers might assume that nonunion automakers, like Toyota, Tesla or Hyundai-Kia, will now be able to price their vehicles well below what the Detroit automakers can. But history shows that the nonunion companies will eventually feel compelled to raise their factory wages, too, in their effort to ward off the UAW's efforts to unionize their factories. As their own labor costs rise, they, too, would likely impose price increases.

At the same time, the breadth of competition means that while GM, Ford and Stellantis will seek to raise vehicle prices, it might prove difficult to make significant price hikes stick.

"I don't think consumers will necessarily readily absorb all the price increases," said Jonathan Smoke, chief economist for Cox Automotive. "We are bound to see continued growth in discounting, which has just started to re-



A Ford Bronco is displayed at a Gus Machado Ford dealership on Jan. 23, 2023, in Hialeah, Fla. Associated Press

cover as supplies improve." If approved by 146,000 union members, the settlements that ended the strikes mean that automakers will raise top assembly plant worker pay by more than 30% to around \$42 an hour by the time new contracts end in April of 2028. Less-senior workers and temporary hires will receive much bigger increases. Ford estimates that the contract will raise labor costs by \$850 to \$900 per vehicle. All three automakers said they have taken steps to pare costs and become more efficient, having known for months that they would have to begin raising worker pay. But they also face huge capital expenses to develop and build electric vehicles as the world transitions from gasoline to battery power. "When the dust settles from this UAW debacle, the Detroit auto stalwarts find themselves with a bigger cost profile with competition increasing," said Dan Ives, an analyst at Wedbush.

Natalie Knight, the chief financial officer of Stellantis, the parent company of Chrysler, Jeep and Ram, said her company has already pulled out of two auto shows in the United States to save on expenses. "You can imagine that is

not the end of our activities," Knight said Tuesday. "That's an issue for all of our business and something we are working very, very consciously on to see how do we mitigate those costs." Even before the strikes, auto prices were rising as a pandemic-related computer chip shortage hobbled factories and made new vehicles scarce. The average sale price peaked in December of last year at nearly \$50,000. This year, computer chips started flowing before the strike, and companies were making more vehicles. Supplies increased, and by September, prices dropped to just under \$48,000, said Smoke, the Cox economist. □

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# Largest Christian university in U.S. faces record fine after federal probe into alleged deception

By **COLLIN BINKLEY**  
AP Education Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The country's largest Christian university is being fined \$37.7 million by the federal government amid accusations that it misled students about the cost of its graduate programs.

Grand Canyon University, which has more than 100,000 students, mostly in online programs, faces the largest fine of its kind ever issued by the U.S. Education Department. The university dismissed the allegations as "lies and deceptive statements."

"Grand Canyon University categorically denies every accusation in the Department of Education's statement and will take all measures necessary to defend itself from these false accusations," the school said in a five-page statement.

An Education Department investigation found that Grand Canyon lied to more than 7,500 current and former students about the cost of its doctoral programs.

As far back as 2017, the



The Jerry Colangelo Museum at Grand Canyon University is seen at dusk in Phoenix, on Sept. 20, 2017.

university told students its doctoral programs would cost between \$40,000 and \$49,000. The department found that less than 2% of graduates completed programs within the range, with 78% paying an additional \$10,000 to \$12,000.

The additional cost often

came from "continuation courses" that were needed to finish dissertation requirements, the department said.

"GCU's lies harmed students, broke their trust and led to unexpectedly high levels of student debt," said Richard Cordray, chief

operating officer for Federal Student Aid, an office in the Education Department. "Today, we are holding GCU accountable for its actions, protecting students and taxpayers, and upholding the integrity of the federal student aid programs."

Associated Press

The Biden administration is issuing the fine amid a broader push for accountability among U.S. universities. The Education Department recently finalized a new regulation that could cut federal funding to for-profit college programs that leave graduates unable to repay loans, and the agency plans to give students and families more information about outcomes from all colleges.

Grand Canyon has 20 days to appeal the fine. The department is also adding new conditions the school must meet to continue receiving federal money.

The school will be barred from making "substantial misrepresentations" about the cost of doctoral programs, and if it tell students about the cost of doctoral programs, it must use the average cost paid by graduates.

It also has to report any other investigations or lawsuits, and it must also send a notice to current doctoral students telling them how to submit a complaint to the Education Department. □

# Maryland man who received second pig heart transplant dies, hospital says

By **LAURAN NEERGAARD**  
AP Medical Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The second person to receive a transplanted heart from a pig has died, nearly six weeks after the highly experimental surgery, his Maryland doctors announced Tuesday.

Lawrence Faucette, 58, was dying from heart failure and ineligible for a traditional heart transplant when he received the genetically modified pig heart on Sept. 20.

According to the University of Maryland School of Medicine, the heart had seemed healthy for the first month but began showing signs of rejection in recent days. Faucette died

Monday. In a statement released by the hospital, Faucette's wife, Ann, said her husband "knew his time

with us was short and this was his last chance to do for others. He never imagined he would survive as

long as he did."

The Maryland team last year performed the world's first transplant of a heart from a genetically altered pig into another dying man. David Bennett survived two months before that heart failed, for reasons that aren't completely clear although signs of a pig virus later were found inside the organ. Lessons from that first experiment led to changes, including better virus testing, before the second attempt.

"Mr. Faucette's last wish was for us to make the most of what we have learned from our experience," Dr. Bartley Griffith, the surgeon who led the transplant at the University of Maryland

Medical Center, said in a statement.

Attempts at animal-to-human organ transplants called xenotransplants have failed for decades, as people's immune systems immediately destroyed the foreign tissue. Now scientists are trying again using pigs genetically modified to make their organs more humanlike.

Faucette, a Navy veteran and father of two from Frederick, Maryland, had been turned down for a traditional heart transplant because of other health problems when he came to the Maryland hospital, out of options and expressing a wish to spend a little more time with his family. □



In this photo provided by the University of Maryland School of Medicine, Lawrence Faucette sits with wife, Ann, in the school's hospital in Baltimore, Md., in September 2023, before receiving a pig heart transplant.

Associated Press



## Amnesty International says Israeli forces wounded Lebanese civilians with white phosphorus

By KAREEM CHEHAYEB  
Associated Press

**BEIRUT (AP)** — The human rights group Amnesty International said Tuesday that civilians in southern Lebanon were injured this month when Israeli forces hit a border village with shells containing white phosphorus, a controversial incendiary munition.

The organization said it verified three other instances of Israel's military dropping white phosphorus on Lebanese border areas in the past month, but Amnesty said it did not document any harm to civilians in those cases.

Human rights advocates say the use of white phosphorus is illegal under international law when the white-hot chemical substance is fired into populated areas. It can set buildings on fire and burn human flesh down to the bone. Survivors are at risk of infections and organ or respiratory failure, even if their burns are small.

After an Oct. 16 Israeli strike in the town of Duhaira, houses and cars caught



A shell that appears to be white phosphorus from Israeli artillery explodes over a house in al-Bustan, a Lebanese border village with Israel, south Lebanon, on Oct. 15, 2023.

Associated Press

fire and nine civilians were rushed to the hospital with breathing problems from the fumes, Amnesty said. The group said it had verified photos that showed white phosphorus shells lined up next to Israeli artillery near the tense Lebanon-Israel border.

The organization described the incident as an "indiscriminate attack" that harmed civilians and should be "investigated as a war crime."

A paramedic shared photos with The Associated Press of first responders in oxygen masks and helping

an elderly man, his face covered with a shirt, out of a burning house and into an ambulance.

"This is the first time we've seen white phosphorus used on areas with civilians in such large amounts," Ali Nouredine, a paramedic who was among the re-

sponding emergency workers, said. "Even our guys needed oxygen masks after saving them."

The Amnesty report is the latest in a series of allegations by human rights groups that Israeli forces have dropped shells containing white phosphorus on densely populated residential areas in Gaza and Lebanon during the ongoing Israel-Hamas war.

Israel maintains it uses the incendiaries only as a smokescreen and not to target civilians.

The Israeli military said in a statement to the AP earlier this month that the main type of smokescreen shells it uses "do not contain white phosphorus." But it did not rule out its use in some situations. The military did not immediately respond to inquiries about Tuesday's Amnesty statement. The rights group said it also verified cases of white phosphorus shelling on the border town of Aita al Shaab and over open land close to the village of al-Mari. It said the shelling caused wildfires. □

## Mexico says four more sunken boats found in Acapulco bay after Hurricane Otis

**MEXICO CITY (AP)** — The Mexican navy said Tuesday that four more boats have been located on the bottom of Acapulco bay, bringing to 33 the number of vessels that apparently sank when Hurricane Otis slammed into the resort city last week.

The boats are believed to have been one of the key sources of hurricane deaths, because many crews are missing and apparently stayed aboard their craft when the Category 5 storm hit. So far, 47 people have been confirmed killed, including three foreign residents.

Navy Secretary José Rafael Ojeda said a ship with a crane has arrived, and

that search teams hope to start lifting the boats to the surface soon to check for victims.

"We have located 33 vessels, and we are going to

start trying to lift them," Ojeda said.

However, with just one crane working, lifting the boats to the surface could take weeks, raising the

prospect of a long, agonizing wait for relatives.

On Monday, a handful of relatives demonstrated on Acapulco's mud-clogged main boulevard to demand authorities speed up the search, holding up hand-lettered signs saying "I'm looking for my husband."

Abigail Andrade Rodríguez was one of four crew members aboard the rental boat Litos, a 94-foot (29-meter), twin-motor yacht based in Puerto Marques, just south of Acapulco's main bay, on the night the hurricane hit. "None of them has been found," said Susy Andrade, her aunt.

"She spoke with her family (Tuesday) and she said the

sea was very choppy, and that they were going to leave Puerto Marques and head for the (Acapulco) marina to see if they would be safer there," Andrade said. "It appears they didn't arrive."

Around midnight, the yacht appears to have sent out an SOS after being blown or fleeing across the main bay. There was no official word that the Litos was among the 29 boats confirmed sunk.

"Things don't look good," Andrade said, "but we want to find her."

Acapulco is known for both its abundance of expensive yachts and its cheap tour boats that carry tourists around the bay. □



Damage is seen at a yacht club in the aftermath of Hurricane Otis in Acapulco, Mexico, Saturday, Oct. 28, 2023.

Associated Press



## Singapore defense minister calls on China to take the lead in reducing regional tensions

By **KEN MORITSUGU** Associated Press

**BEIJING (AP)** — Singapore's defense minister urged China as a dominant power in Asia to take the lead in reducing tensions in the region, warning that a military conflict like the one in Ukraine or the Israel-Hamas war would be devastating for the continent and its future.

Speaking Tuesday on the third and final day of an annual defense conference held by China, Ng Eng Hen stressed the importance of military-to-military communication to manage crises, expressing hope that the United States and China would resume the use of their military hotline.

Peace is precarious and never a given anywhere in the world, Ng said. "What has happened in Europe and the Middle East must never occur here. ... We must do all we can to avoid it."

The Xiangshan Forum brought together defense officials from dozens of countries and organizations.

China, which recently sacked its defense minister, was represented by Zhang



Singapore's Defense Minister Ng Eng Hen arrives for the 10th Beijing Xiangshan Forum in Beijing, Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2023.

Youxia, vice chairman of the Central Military Commission.

Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu used the forum to highlight Russia's deepening ties with China as it faces isolation from the West over its invasion of Ukraine.

Shoigu was given a military honor guard reception before a meeting with Zhang on Monday. The Russian

Tass news agency quoted Zhang as saying that China is ready to respond with Russia to security threats and challenges and "jointly maintain global strategic balance and stability."

Ukraine's defense attaché took issue with the conference giving the floor to Shoigu and the defense minister of pro-Russia Belarus on Monday, followed by an Iranian official who

defended Russia's invasion on Tuesday.

"There is only North Korea missing to see the full parade of evil," the attaché, Klymyshyn Petro, said during a question and answer session after a speech by Seyed Yahya Rahim Safavi, a senior adviser to Iran's leader.

Safavi described the invasion as a defensive reaction to U.S. and EU efforts to

expand NATO to the Russian border, and said that Ukraine is paying a high price because the U.S. and NATO don't want to fight with Russia directly.

Ng, noting the territorial disputes in the South China Sea and the nuclear threat from North Korea, said it is vital for defense and military establishments to engage to reduce the risk of miscalculations and mishaps.

He applauded codes that have been adopted to manage unplanned military encounters at sea and said they should be expanded to include coast guards, which frequently face off in disputed waters. The Philippines and China exchanged accusations and warnings Tuesday after China's navy and air force tracked a Philippine navy ship near Scarborough Shoal in the South China Sea.

China froze military exchanges with the U.S. in August 2022, but the two sides appear to be restarting dialogue, including on security ahead of a possible meeting between Presidents Joe Biden and Xi Jinping in November. □

Associated Press

## U.N. human rights official is alarmed by sprawling gang violence in Haiti

By **EVENS SANON** and **DÁNICA COTO**

Associated Press

**PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti**

**(AP)** — The United Nations expert on human rights in Haiti said Tuesday that he is alarmed by the rapid spread of gang violence and the bleak future awaiting children in the embattled country. William O'Neill spoke at the end of a weeklong visit to Haiti, his second one this year amid a spike in violence that has displaced more than 200,000 people. "Murders, injuries and kidnappings are the daily lot

of the population," he said. "An entire generation is seemingly being sacrificed by violence, and the future of a country is threatened by the dramatic situation faced by its youth." More than 1,230 killings and 701 kidnappings were reported across Haiti from July 1 to Sept. 30, more than double the figure reported during the same period last year, according to the U.N.

An estimated 200 gangs operate in Haiti, with the largest groups controlling up to 80% of the capital of Port-au-Prince. "A major challenge is the fact that

many gang members are children," O'Neill said. "It will be necessary to implement rehabilitation and reintegration programs for the vast majority of them." He also noted that gang violence has spread to previously peaceful areas in Haiti's central and north-west regions and that more than 500,000 children have no access to education given the spike in violence. O'Neill said gangs also continue to sexually abuse women and girls who have no access to health care. "The state must assume its responsibilities not only



Residents flee their homes to escape clashes between armed gangs in the Carrefour-Feuilles district of Port-au-Prince, Haiti, Aug. 25, 2023.

Associated Press

to prevent human rights violations and abuses, but also to protect its population, especially the most vulnerable," he said. Haiti's National Police, which is

understaffed and under-resourced, has struggled in its fight against gangs, with only some 4,000 officers on duty at a time in the country of 11.7 million people. □



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# Aruban legends: Frenchman's Pass

**(Oranjestad)—If you ever plan on taking a group tour of the island, you may pass through the Frenchman's Pass in Balashi. The Frenchman's pass (known to locals as "Franse Pas") remains a mysterious—and spooky—road of which its legend is told from generation to generation.**

The history of the Frenchman's pass—and how it got its name—dates back to the colonization era, when the French tried to colonize the island, but were met with an angry mob of indigenous settlers, refusing to give up their land. However, as the French were heavily equipped with fire arms, the indigenous set-

tlers began to retreat, and hid away in nearby caves. The French colonizers tried to smoke them out of the caves, but the indigenous settlers ended up inhaling too much smoke and most died in those caves. From then on, this passage was known as Frenchman's Pass, and there have been many accounts of spirits roaming the area of Spanish Lagoon.

There are many ghost stories surrounding this area, but one of the most famous one involves a lonely hitchhiker, trying to find a ride back home in the dark rainy night.

Sometime after trying to hitchhike, the man saw a

car approaching, appearing almost ghost-like in the rain. However, since he needed a ride real bad, he didn't think twice and jumped in. But to his horror, he noticed that the there was no driver in the front. Paralyzed with fear, he didn't dare to get out, and the car started to move.

When approaching a sharp turn, the hitch hiker braced for impact, but just when he thought the car might drive straight off the road and crash, he saw a hand appear out the window and turn the wheel. For the next few turns, the hand appeared again. After having had enough, the man de-



cided to jump out and he ran to Santa Cruz.

Arriving at a nearby bar, he ordered a drink and began to tell everyone about his experience. Everyone grew quiet, because they realized he wasn't some drunk messing around; he was telling the truth.

Sometime later, two men walked into the bar and one of them noticed the hitchhik-

er. He called out to his buddy and said: "Look, there's the idiot who sat in our car when we were pushing it!"

French man's pass is one of the few sites on the island that keeps the locals on their toes. While most ghost stories may not have real grounds—or some may even be a set up story for a joke, this pass contributes a lot to our culture of folkloric story-telling. Source: [visitaruba.com](http://visitaruba.com)





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## Aruba to me

**ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.**

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is ..... Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com) and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive?

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reader every day again.

For today we received a lovely message from **Desmond Leahy from Surfside Beach, South Carolina, USA.**

She wrote to us saying: "Aruba to me is the friendly native people and the beautiful beaches." Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! □



## Aruba's Nature is to be Cherished

**ST. CRUZ — The national park Arikok comprises almost 18 % of the island. Its rugged terrain, desert-like hills filled with tall cacti, breathtaking coastline and protected local flora and fauna welcome you to be explored. There is numerous wildlife to discover like for example the sea turtle who lays his eggs on the park's beaches. There are more places on the island that are a preserved area like the Bubali Plas which is a bird sanctuary.**

The national park Arikok takes you on a memorable journey of the islands past offering unique geological, cultural and historical sites. These can all be enjoyed and explored either on your own or during guided tours. A wide variety of educational and informative programs and fun activities is available.

Did you know that four of



the in total seven species of sea turtle lay their eggs on Aruba's beaches? In the national park, a Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*) keeps a strict eye on a very special event taking place below on the beach: a majestic Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) heads back to sea after laying her eggs, while another nest laid 2 months ago by the same female hatches. A very rare occurrence of daytime nesting and hatching. Sea turtles prefer nesting in the cool and dark hours of the night. And hatchlings usually wait for the cue of cooling surface sand before emerging.

### Bubali Magic

This beautiful close-up image of the pink bird is courtesy of Michiel Oversteegen of the Aruba Birdlife Conservation. This important foundation showcases and builds awareness of Aruba's birds and other native flora and fauna. You may have seen a 'pink cloud' lately at the Bubali or Spanish Lagoon Wetlands areas? It's most likely to be Roseate Spoonbills (*Ajaia ajaja*) or 'Chucharon Cora' as they are known in Papiamentu. This unusual looking bird forages in shallow muddy water while sweeping its flattened bill from side to side to catch small fish, crustaceans

and other aquatic invertebrates. The Roseate Spoonbill remains an uncommon sight as they are vulnerable to degradation of feeding and nesting habitats (Wetlands). (Source: arikok national park)

The aforementioned is just a part of what Aruba's nature has to offer. We cannot stress enough to go, see for yourself. The island has the most beautiful beaches but it is also worthwhile to go beyond this and get an idea of our entire island. Lately there is a discussion going on about the effect

certain activities have on our nature, for example the ATV vehicles cause a lot of dust, noise and leave tire tracks. Animals live in these areas where the vehicles run, often with high speed and with detrimental consequences to flora and fauna. Motorized vehicles are forbidden to drive on the sand dunes in the Northern part of the island and all beaches in Aruba are forbidden for any motorized vehicle. Treasure our island to enjoy it like you do: as a tropical and natural paradise. We truly appreciate it! □

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Article by Etnia Nativa

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## Dutch clay pipes

**Every week, Etnia Nativa unveils a new episode regarding culture and heritage, focusing on native knowledge, transcendental wisdom, and the importance of defending Aruba's true identity. Articles that connect the reader with a mystical aspect of the island, its culture, and its traditional heritage encourage all to interact with the native environment by adopting an authentic island state of consciousness.**

In this episode, we share some details about the origin of small white cylindrical fragments found during archaeological expeditions in different parts of our island. If you are an earth explorer, you will encounter many kinds of objects of white or pale coloration. Some were made out of fish bones, shells, and old porcelain, and others out of white clay. Some are materials used in the manufacturing of quiripa, shell buttons with one or more holes used for bodily ornamentation, found during archaeological excavations of major settlements like Savaneta, Sta. Cruz, and Tanki Flip belonging to the Ceramic Period. These found fragments allow archaeologists to date or place the site at a certain epoch or period.

Some other small artifacts, such as white perforated cylindrical tubes, were also found in many places around the island. These are a testimony to activities belonging to another period in our island history. These pieces belong to an artifact sought by many

in those days who wanted to show off their status. These were shreds and broken pieces that once formed part of the so-called Gouda pipes, a commercial indication of the Dutch colonial era. The white ceramic tobacco pipes, also known as "Dutch pipes," were kind of fragile and used to get clogged with Tabaco, consequently being discarded in frequented places on our island. These pipes were mainly used for the smoking of dry tobacco leaves. They reached the Caribbean from the 17th century onward.


The manufacturing took place in the Dutch city of Gouda, which became one of the important production centers. Remnants of pipes produced there can be found all over the world. The peculiar thing was that the first pipes of these kinds were brought to the Netherlands from England in the early 17th century by religious refugees, soldiers of fortune, and craftsmen. The first known reference to pipe making in the Netherlands dates back to 1611, when an English pipe maker in Amsterdam took legal action against

another pipe maker. Many clay pipes have a maker's mark that can not only provide the exact date of manufacture of the pipe but also its origin. The Dutch name is "pijpaarde," which means pipe earth and stands for a type of white pipe firing clay of the sort that is used to make tobacco smoking pipes and which tends to be treated as disposable objects.

The raw material with which they were first made was found in specific places, in the River Thames upstream from London. However, in Holland, they used white clay from deposits found in the Rhine and Maas rivers.

The remains of these pipes have promoted avenues of archaeological research on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean. Focusing on the maker's marks or a symbol attached to the product, the practice of pipe marking probably coincided with the establishment of the London tobacco pipe guild in 1619. Archaeologists analyze the style and shape of the bowl, the diameter of the pipe hole stem, the style and location of the brand itself, and the place of manufacture. Pieces of these pipes can maybe still be found in places like Alto Vista, Wela, Balashi, etc.

Pipe makers' marks appear in a variety of places on the bowl and were produced by molds that left included, negative, or raised impressions. In the first half of the 17th century, the markings usually appeared on the flat base of the heel on Dutch pipes.

A peculiar thing is that our natives used these broken pieces to make chokers and other body-decorating artifacts. To learn all about Aruba, book a visit to Etnia Nativa, a unique native gem! 

Through this platform, Etnia Nativa shares the most interesting and revealing stories about Aruba as an undiscovered tourist destination, and if you are interested in getting to know the island beyond the beaches and its deep heritage, book a visit to its magnificent private building that integrates natural and reused materials and is full of art, culture, and island heritage, where each visitor is guided through a private encounter with the owner-builder and cultural expert. WhatsApp +297 592 2702 etnianaativa03@gmail.com





## Did you know about...?

# The history and meaning of the Aruban florin

(Oranjestad)—Aruba Today is proud to officially introduce a new segment called Did you know about...?, where we dive into some (historical) facts of Aruba, its culture and way of living. In this first edition, we look back at the Aruban florin: its history, design and symbolism.

In Aruba, we know the 5, 10, 25 and 50 cent coins, along with the 1 and 5 Florin coin. Aruban Florin bills include the 10, 25, 50, 100, and rarely, the 200 bills. In Papiamentu we call our currency Florin, but the umbrella term for money is placa. Cents are called cen (pronounced: seng), both in the singular and plural form. Most coins are circular and their size depend on their worth. However, the 50 cent coin is easily recognizable by their square shape, as is the 5 Florin coin by their golden color. Every coin has the Aruban emblem carved on it, with the other side displaying the worth of the coin. The bigger 1 and 5 florin coins, however, contain the carving of the emblem on one side, while displaying the side profile of the Dutch king, Willem-Alexander, on the other side. When his mother, Princess Beatrix, was reigning queen, it was her profile that was carved on the two coins.

### Outdated Aruban coins and their names

In the past, Aruban coins



had distinctive names and also varied in worth. For example, a 5-cent coin was once called Dos placa; 10-cent coins were called debchi; 25-cent coins were called diez placa and the 50-cent coin was once called Yotin (pronounced: jo-teen). We also used a distinctive coins worth 2 ½ cents, called placa too. However, this last coin is no longer in use and has become a relic of Aruban money. Back then, the 5-Florin coin used to also be square, but now it is circular.

### Aruban bills: their design and symbolism

The Aruban Florin collection contains a variation of colorful bills, displaying incredibly detailed and beautiful designs that tell the story of

Aruba on a single piece of paper.

Prior to 2019, the Aruban Florin bills were relatively simpler in design compared to now, but still included beautiful designs and colors, often depicting local animals. These past designs were made by the Aruban artist Everino Fingal in 1990 up to 2019. Between 1990 and 1993, the 5 Florin coin was a bill. The Fingal designs also included a 500-Florin bill, which has now been discontinued.

In 2019, the Central Bank of Aruba commissioned a new design of the Aruba Florin bills, this time selecting artist and former art teacher, Nigel Matthew, to present his new design. Matthew kept the tradition of including local animals and the familiar colors on the bills. However, he included additional designs

that represent the Aruban culture and link to the Indigenous inhabitants that were the first to set foot on the island.

### Current design and symbolism

#### 10 florin

On the 10-florin bill, you can see a Turtuga blanco (white turtle). The blue color symbolizes the blue Caribbean Sea. You can also see the ruins of the Bushiribana Gold Mill Ruins, a coral motif, and the symbols of Cas Floria (traditional Aruban house design) with a piece of mosaic.

#### 25 florin

On this orange bill, you can see an Aruban medicinal plant called Shoshoro. The birds Trupiaal, Shoco, rock drawings, and the symbols of Cas Floria with a piece of mosaic are also depicted. There is also a Purun di ceramica (clay pot), in

reference to the relics left behind by our indigenous ancestors.

#### 50 florin

On this bill, we see the Cododo (blue lizard found on the ABC islands), Cangre di tera (land crab), Willem III Tower, and again the symbols of Cas Floria with a piece of mosaic, as well as a beach plant called Banana di rif. The colors are pink/purple.

#### 100 florin

This bill is green in color, representing nature. Here we see the Yuwana (Iguana), Aloe, Toteki (lizard), the symbols of Cas Floria with a piece of mosaic, and a dance group performing the Baile di cinta (folkloric dance with silk ribbons).

#### 200 florin

There is another bill with a value of 200 dollars. The brown color symbolizes the earth of Aruba. Here we see the Dornasol and the Warawara—both local birds, along with the symbols of Cas Floria with a piece of mosaic, the Tuna cactus plant, and the Caha di orgel (folkloric instrument, used for many traditional songs).

### Extra fact:

the word "florin" supposedly is named after the Italian city of Florence or it's a reference to the Italian word "florino", both explanations related to historical Italian currencies.

**Source: Placa, placa, placa by the National Library of Aruba**





## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

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6 Wine 42 Home  
barrel design

10 Gets up

11 Use the

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12 Machu

Picchu

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13 City-based

14 Ham or

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15 Gazelle's

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16 Young

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17 Music

category

18 Top rating

19 Explores

caves

22 Appear

23 Greek

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26 Dentist's

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29 Bit of

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32 Ring wins,

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33 Road goo

34 Source

36 One of a

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37 Eggs buy

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39 Portents

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11 Yokels

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### Yesterday's answer

15 Charged 27 Long, long

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17 Fall deco- 28 Pencil end

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29 Extinct

20 Zodiac birds

30 Bakery

21 Boar's come-on

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31 "Carmen"

24 Doomed composer

35 Heredity

25 Get com- unit

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36 Blanched

38 Bright hue

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11-1

AXYDI.BAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

11-1

### CRYPTOQUOTE

Q X J F A I F H S U V S D N N F F A N

Z X A F Z G F Q X H V S D X B

Z G F D F S H — F A E U D

C E M W E Q N X Q

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: STICKY FINGERS, TIRED FEET, ONE LAST HOUSE, TRICK OR TREAT! — RUSTY FISCHER

## For the second Halloween in a row, U.S. candy inflation hits double digits

By DEE-ANN DURBIN  
AP Business Writer

Spooked by the high price of Halloween candy? There's not much relief in sight. For the second year in a row, U.S. shoppers are seeing double-digit inflation in the candy aisle. Candy and gum prices are up an average of 13% this month compared to last October, more than double the 6% increase in all grocery prices, according to DataSentry, a retail price tracker. That's on top of a 14% increase in candy and gum prices in October 2022. "The price of candy has gotten to be outrageous," said Jessica Weathers, a small business owner in Shiloh, Illinois. "It doesn't make sense to me to spend \$100 on candy." Weathers said she usually buys plenty of candy for trick-or-treaters and events at school and church. But this year, she only bought



An assortment of Halloween candy is shown in this photo taken on Friday, Oct. 27, 2023 in New York.

Associated Press

two bags and plans to turn off her porch light on Halloween when she runs out. Other consumers are changing what they buy. Numerator, a market research firm, said its surveys show about one-third of U.S. consumers plan to trade down to value or store brands when buying candy for trick-or-treaters

this year. Weather is the main culprit for the higher prices. Cocoa prices are trading at 44-year highs after heavy rains in West Africa caused limited production in the season that began last fall. Now, El Nino conditions are making the region drier and are likely to linger well into the spring. □

## Bud Light brewer confident it can win back U.S. drinkers, but sales are still down after backlash



Cans of Bud Light chill in a refrigerator in Oakland, Calif., Friday, April 28, 2023. AB InBev reports earnings on Tuesday, Oct. 31.

Associated Press

By DEE-ANN DURBIN  
AP Business Writer

Anheuser-Busch InBev said Tuesday that revenue growth in most of its global regions was offset by a drop in North American sales in the third quarter, in a sign of continuing fallout from a promotion with a transgender influencer. The world's largest brewer and parent company of Bud Light said its revenue climbed 5% to \$15.6 billion for the July-September period. That was in line with Wall Street's estimates, according to analysts polled by FactSet. But revenue in the United States tumbled 13.5%.

Bud Light sales plunged in early April amid a conservative backlash after the brand sent a commemorative can to transgender influencer Dylan Mulvaney. □

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24/7



# Cutting-edge AI raises fears about risks to humanity Are tech and political leaders doing enough?

By **KELVIN CHAN**  
AP Business Writer

**LONDON (AP)** — Chatbots like ChatGPT wowed the world with their ability to write speeches, plan vacations or hold a conversation as good as or arguably even better than humans do, thanks to cutting-edge artificial intelligence systems. Now, frontier AI has become the latest buzzword as concerns grow that the emerging technology has capabilities that could endanger humanity. Everyone from the British government to top researchers and even major AI companies themselves are raising the alarm about frontier AI's as-yet-unknown dangers and calling for safeguards to protect people from its existential threats. The debate comes to a head Wednesday, when British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak hosts a two-day summit focused on frontier AI. It's reportedly expected to draw a group of about 100 officials from 28 countries, including U.S. Vice President Kamala Harris, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen and executives from key U.S. artificial intelligence companies including OpenAI, Google's Deepmind and Anthropic. The venue is Bletchley Park, a former top secret base for



Britain's Prime Minister Rishi Sunak delivers a speech on AI at Royal Society, Carlton House Terrace, London, Thursday Oct. 26, 2023.

Associated Press

World War II codebreakers led by Alan Turing. The historic estate is seen as the birthplace of modern computing because it is where Turing and others famously cracked Nazi Germany's codes using the world's first digital programmable computer. In a speech last week, Sunak said only governments not AI companies can keep people safe from the technology's risks. However, he also noted that the U.K.'s approach "is not to rush to regulate," even as he outlined a host of scary-sounding threats, such as the use of AI to more easily make chemical or biological weapons. "We need to take this seriously, and we need to start focusing on trying to get

ahead of the problem," said Jeff Clune, an associate computer science professor at the University of British Columbia focusing on AI and machine learning. Clune was among a group of influential researchers who authored a paper last week calling for governments to do more to manage risks from AI.

It's the latest in a series of dire warnings from tech moguls like Elon Musk and OpenAI CEO Sam Altman about the rapidly evolving technology and the disparate ways the industry, political leaders and researchers see the path forward when it comes to reining in the risks and regulation. □

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# Willie Nelson looks back on 7 decades of songwriting in new book 'Energy Follows Thought'

By **ANDREW DALTON**  
AP Entertainment Writer  
**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Willie

starts with the words. It's one of the surprising revelations in Willie Nelson's new book, "Energy Follows Thought: The Stories Behind My Songs," an examination of the 90-year-old country legend and soon-to-be Rock & Roll Hall of Famer's seven decades of songwriting.

While his guitar is practically an extension of his body at this point, he has always started the writing process by thinking up words rather than strumming chords. To him, it's doing the hard part first.

"The melodies are easier to write than the words," Nelson told The Associated Press in an interview ahead of Tuesday's release of his book.

He does not, however, write those words down, not even on a napkin.

"I have a theory," he said, "that if you can't remember 'em, it probably wasn't that good."

Nelson actually started out as a poet of sorts. At age



Willie Nelson performs at the Producers & Engineers Wing 12th Annual GRAMMY Week Celebration in Los Angeles on Feb. 6, 2019.

6 in Depression-era Texas, he composed a verse in response to the looks he got when he picked his nose and got a nosebleed while standing in front of his church congregation.

"My poem was, 'What are you looking at me for? I ain't got nothin' to say, if

you don't like the looks of me, look some other way,'" he recalled 84 years later. "That was the beginning." He started writing songs soon after.

When he became a superstar in middle age in the mid-1970s, Nelson would be best known for his dynamic

live performances and his guitar and vocal stylings.

But as a young man in the 1950s and early '60s, he was best known as one of the struggling songsmiths who spent their days and nights at Tootsie's Orchid Lounge in Nashville.

In 1961, three of his songs

became hits for other artists: Billy Walker's "Funny How Time Slips Away," Faron Young's "Hello Walls" and, most importantly, Patsy Cline's "Crazy," a song that would become a signature for her and both a financial boon and an ego boost for him.

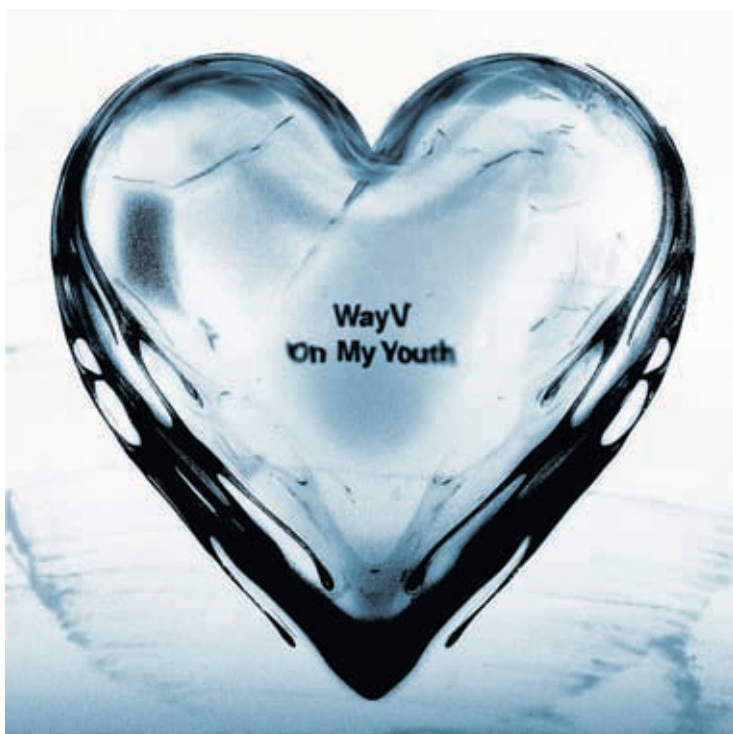
"Because Patsy liked it, I was poor no longer," he writes in the book. "This particular 'Crazy' convinced me, at a time when I wasn't a hundred percent sure of my writing talent, that I'd be crazy to stop writing."

He would go on to make other writers' songs his own in the same way. He didn't write most of the biggest hits associated with him, which came in the 1970s and 80s: "Blue Eyes Crying in the Rain," "Mammas Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up to Be Cowboys," "Always on My Mind."

He almost seemed to retire from songwriting when fame finally came to him in the Outlaw Country era, enjoying the chance to record his favorite old standards or the compositions of hot young writers. □

Associated Press

# Chinese boy band WayV prove their mettle with second album 'On My Youth'



This cover image released by SM Entertainment shows "On My Youth" by WayV.

Associated Press

By **CRISTINA JALERU**  
Associated Press

SM Entertainment's Chinese boy band WayV have come out with guns blazing on their sophomore album, "On My Youth." It's no small feat for the six-piece group to stand out, particularly because they are the fourth sub-unit (a smaller group made up from members of a larger one) from the K-pop mega boyband NCT.

But WayV manage to forge their own style and path in the dizzying world of K-pop divisions and subdivisions. They are in spirit, musically and aesthetically, the new generation's EXO-M. SM Entertainment's previous Chinese subgroup of their super act EXO loaded with similar charisma.

WayV, whose name is an acronym for We Are Your Vision, expertly mix hip-hop, pop and electronica on their new 10-track album in a style uniquely their own. From the neo-soulful "No One But You" and the bright pop "Be Alright," this album is a journey that always seems to revert back to a sense of hopefulness, uplifting the listener even when detouring with a weird trap stanza. (In that way, moving from a kind of softness to an edge feels like the sonic equivalent of watching Bambi pretend to be the hunter.)

The title track and single "On My Youth," which also gets an all English-language version on the album, moves from electronic music to trap to rap

in a mid-tempo melody, an an unexpected but welcomed combo. "Poppin' Love" is ripe for dancing, with its Y2K boy band-style production flavor with a dizzying beat. "Lighthouse" is a pleasant stripped down piano ballad, and "Moonlight" goes full pop with a majestic string arrangement.

If there is an outlier on the album, it's found on "RO-DEO," with its deep bass EDM beats and surprising reference to Lil Jon's "From the Window to the Wall." But its uniqueness doesn't make for a disjointed listening experience instead, it works as a great break on the album, arriving midway through.

Think of it like an animated intermission. □



# The James Harden saga in Philly has ended, and it makes sense for everyone

By **TIM REYNOLDS**  
AP Basketball Writer

The Philadelphia 76ers are perhaps an uncalled travel away from being 3-0. They're playing at a high pace, they're moving the ball, they're defending well, and reigning NBA MVP Joel Embiid is off to a monster start.

It's a good beginning by just about any measure.

And that showed it was time for James Harden to play elsewhere.

The next step in the Harden saga came Tuesday, albeit with a slight deviation from what was believed to be the plan. The 76ers said he would be practicing with the team; instead, he was packing for Los Angeles, after getting traded to the Clippers for a slew of players and draft picks.

Harden got what he wanted: a trade to the Clippers. The 76ers got what they needed: rid of a headache.

Win-win.

Somebody had to blink first to solve this Harden issue, and evidently, that was Daryl Morey. He didn't get the player the 76ers were believed to be coveting most



**Philadelphia 76ers' James Harden, third from right, looks on from the bench with his teammates during the first half of an NBA basketball game against the Portland Trail Blazers, Sunday, Oct. 29, 2023, in Philadelphia.**

from the Clippers, guard Terance Mann, but made the deal anyway. Harden insisted that he wouldn't play again for Philadelphia while Morey was in charge, and having Harden back in practice on Tuesday would have meant that the 76ers were about to see if the 10-time All-Star guard was bluffing. We'll never know.

It's not like Harden had no value; he averaged 21.0 points and a league-best 10.7 assists per game last season. But both sides found a way to make the deal without doing much to their current rotations. Robert Covington is going back to Philadelphia after averaging 23 minutes a game through the first

three contests of the year with the Clippers; P.J. Tucker is going to the Clippers after averaging 22 minutes a game so far for the 76ers. Nobody else in the deal was playing that much, and in some cases, hadn't really been playing at all for their now-former teams. Harden was on the bench with the 76ers on Sunday

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night, watching in street clothes and seeming to be enjoying the show. Philly is averaging 119 points per game, shooting 50% and has four players — Embiid, Tyrese Maxey, Tobias Harris and Kelly Oubre Jr. — averaging at least 19 points per contest. They didn't look like they've missed Harden. Their lone loss so far was a one-pointer to Milwaukee in Game 1, losing the lead for good with 3:57 left moments after Giannis Antetokounmpo sure looked like he traveled before setting up Damian Lillard for the go-ahead 3-pointer.

"Guys are starting to get it," Embiid said. "Everybody's cutting with a purpose. I like the ball movement. I like guys cutting. The ball's not sticking. We're playing together."

And defensively, it's funny I still don't think we're good enough defensively. I think we can be way better than what we've shown."

The Clippers aren't struggling out of the gates either, off to a 2-1 start entering Tuesday and coming off a blowout win over Victor Wembanyama and the San Antonio Spurs. □

# Breeders' Cup contender Practical Move dies after a gallop at Santa Anita

By **BETH HARRIS**  
AP Racing Writer

**ARCADIA, Calif. (AP)** — A horse set to run in this weekend's Breeders' Cup died Tuesday at Santa Anita, and a short time later, Belmont Stakes winner Arcangelo dropped out of the \$6 million Classic because of a foot issue.

Trainer Jena Antonucci said she ran out of time trying to resolve an issue with Arcangelo's left hind foot. The colt had not trained the last few days after having the shoe on that foot removed last weekend.

"I need to fully figure out where he is and what is going on and I need time to do that. As we have said

since Day 1, it is horse first," said Antonucci, the first female trainer to win the Belmont. "The left hind foot is resolving, but we're still not 100% there and I want to know what it is."

Arcangelo had drawn the No. 1 post and was listed at 7-2 odds on the morning line for the Classic. His scratch reduces the field to 11. Kentucky Derby winner Mage had been expected to run in the Classic but never arrived at Santa Anita after spiking a fever last weekend.

Practical Move was returning from a morning gallop when he collapsed near the eighth pole. His rider wasn't hurt. Breeders' Cup

officials said they suspected "a cardiac event." Veterinarians from the California Horse Racing Board, 1/ST Racing and the Breeders' Cup tended to the 3-year-old colt.

Practical Move was the early 3-1 second choice for the \$1 million Dirt Mile on Saturday at the 40th world championships.

He had five wins in eight career starts and earnings of \$923,200. Practical Move won the San Felipe and Santa Anita Derby on his home track before a fever forced him to miss the Kentucky Derby in May. He then took six months off and returned to win a race on Oct. 6 at Santa Anita.

The bay colt was trained by Tim Yakteen.

Another Breeders' Cup contender who was injured

near the end of a workout last Saturday at Santa Anita is not recovering as well as his owner had hoped. □



**Kentucky Derby hopeful Practical Move stands in his stall before a workout at Churchill Downs Tuesday, May 2, 2023, in Louisville, Ky.**

Associated Press



## Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy's TGL to feature 15-hole matches, overtime and lots of technology

By **DOUG FERGUSON** AP Golf Writer

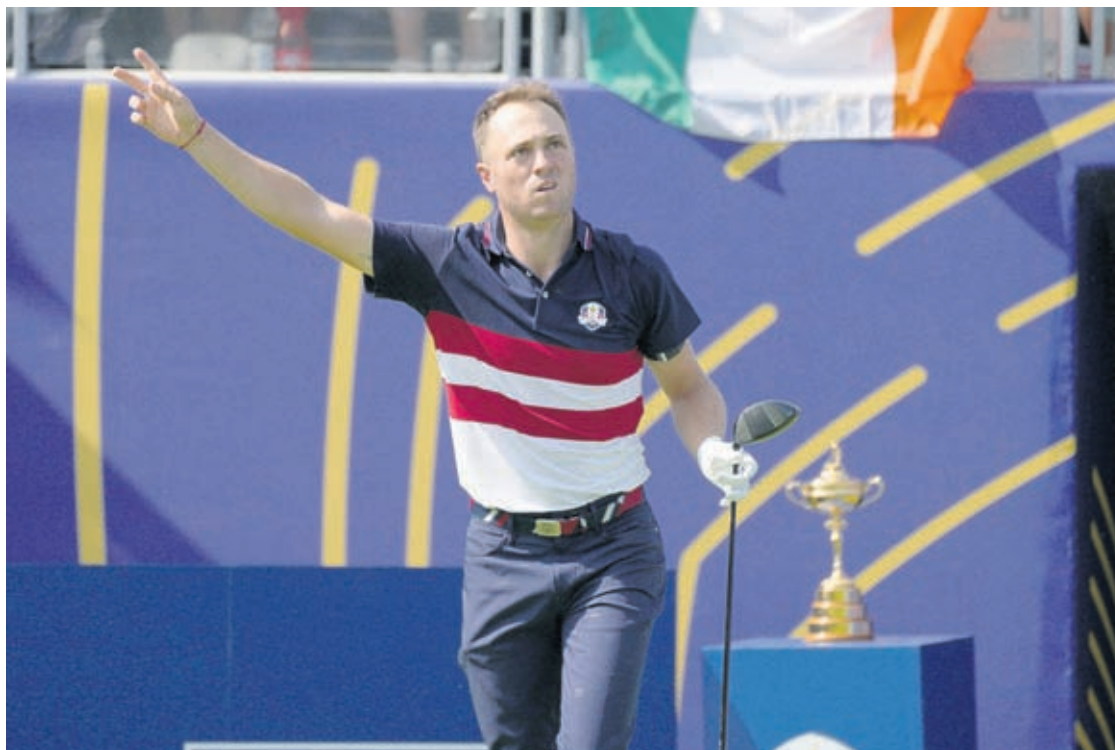
Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy are bringing modern technology to the royal and ancient game with TGL, a team-based golf league played over 15 holes that combines an oversized simulator with actual shots to a tech-infused green that can change contours depending on the shot.

Fourteen months after it was announced, and two months before TGL launches at newly constructed SoFi Center in Florida, the league on Tuesday provided details on just what it is and how it works.

Five of the six four-man teams have been announced for New York, Boston, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Atlanta.

The prime-time matches on ESPN platforms (ESPN, ESPN2 and ESPN+) will be between two teams, each activating three players for the match.

The opening nine holes will be called "triples" alternate shot for the three players, with one point awarded for winning a hole, no carryovers if there



Justin Thomas reacts on the first tee as his ball goes right off the tee during his singles match at the Ryder Cup golf tournament at the Marco Simone Golf Club in Guidonia Montecelio, Italy, Sunday, Oct. 1, 2023.

Associated Press

is a tie. The final six holes will be singles, with each team member playing two holes. Any match ending in a tie goes to overtime, similar to what amounts to penalty kicks in soccer. Each player goes head to head in a closest-to-the-pin competition.

A team win is worth 2

points. The losing team get no points in regulation, 1 point if the match is decided in overtime. Every team faces each other during the regular season, and the top four advance to the playoffs.

TGL debuts on Jan. 9 and ends before the Masters.

"If you take the macro

view, we have a sport with 600 years of history and tradition that we're now combining with technology that exists and has never been deployed in this manner," said Mike McCarley, founder and CEO of TMRW Sports, which developed TGL.

"You combine history and credibility with a new ac-

cess to golf, and I think it broadens the fan base ... making golf relevant to new groups of people in new ways."

The concept 15 holes, a mix of alternate shot and singles, the scoring system is unlike anything else in golf. McCarley said it was developed through brainstorming involving him, Woods, McIlroy and their management groups.

Woods favored alternate shot to bring in more strategy, particularly because the players will be wearing microphones.

As for the actual competition, it starts with a tee shot from one of two areas 35 yards away or 20 yards away from a screen that is 64 feet by 46 feet, roughly 20 times the size of a standard simulator. The ball needs to be in the air for a half-second before hitting the massive screen for all the data to register and simulate the shot.

From there, the next shot to the big screen will be played from either real fairway grass, rough or sand, depending on the accuracy of the tee shot. □

## Commanders trade Chase Young to the 49ers and Montez Sweat to the Bears, AP source says

By **STEPHEN WHYNO** AP Sports Writer

The Washington Commanders traded Montez Sweat to the Chicago Bears for a 2024 second-round draft pick and Chase Young to the San Francisco 49ers for a third-rounder, according to a person with knowledge of both moves. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity Tuesday because neither of the deals had been announced ahead of the 4 p.m. Eastern trade deadline.

Sending away their top two pass rushers signals a major shift for the Commanders under new ownership. Washington has lost five of six since to drop to 3-5 since starting the season

with consecutive victories. Backup quarterback Jacoby Brissett and running back Antonio Gibson could

also be moved before the deadline.

Sweat, 27, is in the final year of his rookie contract



Washington Commanders wide receiver Byron Pringle (3) and defensive end Chase Young (99) talking before the start of an NFL football game against the Philadelphia Eagles, Sunday, Oct. 29, 2023, in Landover, Md.

Associated Press

and looks primed for a big payday in free agency, whether it's with the Bears or elsewhere.

In Sweat, Chicago gets a disruptive defender with a pattern of consistent production. He has 6 1/2 sacks this season and 35 1/2 to go along with 197 tackles since Washington drafted him in the first round in 2019. Sweat won't be part of the future in Washington after the front office already committed big money to defensive tackles Jonathan Allen and Daron Payne. Neither will Young, the 2020 No. 2 pick and Defensive Rookie of the Year who at one time was considered the face of the franchise.

After a 38-31 loss Sunday to Philadelphia, Sweat and

Young were asked repeatedly about the possibility this was their last game together. Sweat said his agent was keeping him abreast of any trade talks.

"Anything can happen, but I can only control what I can," Sweat said. "Yeah, that thought goes across your mind, but you hate to think like that."

Coach Ron Rivera, in his fourth season in charge of Washington's football operations, refused Monday to discuss anything related to the trade deadline, including hypothetically who would step into a starting role of Sweat or Young were no longer around. That figures to be veteran Casey Toohill, who has four sacks this season. □